view of one of the oldest and most moderate of the Congressmen. Despite the lack of preparedness$_3$ the arrest of leaders and the stopping of finances$_s$ it cannot be said that the movement was really waning. Gandhi's fast had created' a diversion. But the day after his release he had declared that civil disobedience should be suspended. Congressmen were inclined to revolt, but dared not, owing to the precarious state of the Mahatma's health. On the other hand, the Government refused to suspend the ordinances or to release the civil disobedience prisoners. The Viceroy refused to see Gandhi and it was decided to resume "individual disobedience/^{3} with the result that a few more hundreds and Gandhi himself returned to prison.

Gandhi found that the facilities provided for him to cany on his untouchability work were inadequate and he began another fast. It is difficult not to feel that this was not a form of coercion very near to the hunger-strike which he has generally condemned. Once more he was released, but announced that he would regard himself as a prisoner without the walls and not resume civil disobedience till August, 1934. He expressed his belief that the Congress had become corrupt, and orders were issued to dissolve all Congress organisations! At this moment Nehru was released, but was once more clapped into jail after four months. No one seemed willing to tackle the situation. The Congress apparently had collapsed. Civil disobedience was dead. It was decided that the Congress should contest the Elections and the Mahatma himself agreed, but the newly formed Congress Socialist party opposed it.

This Party expressed the growing radicalism of elements of the middle class and the increasing disillusion with Gandhian leadership. A number of Hindus, discontented with the Communal Award, formed the Congress Nationalist Party. At the Bombay Congress, Gandhi announced his